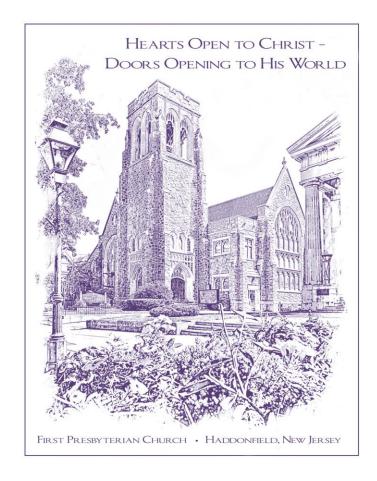
# Annual Report 2022



Annual Meeting February 12, 2023

First Presbyterian Church 20 Kings Highway East Haddonfield, NJ

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HADDONFIELD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION AND CORPORATION FEBRUARY 12, 2023 – 11:00 a.m.

**OPENING PRAYER** 

| APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE   |      |
|--|------|
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#### **MINUTES**

First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield Congregation and Corporation Annual Meeting Sunday, February 13, 2022

Due notice having been given, the Congregation and Corporation meeting was held on the above date in Fellowship Hall. Moderator, Interim Pastor, Rev. Doug Gerdts called meeting to order at 10:55 am with prayer. A quorum of 10% was present. It was noted that 2021 Annual Report was emailed to all congregants. The purpose of the meeting was to receive 2021 Annual Report, elect 2021 Corporate Officers, and accept the Session approved 2022 FPCH Budget.

A quorum was declared.

On Motion, minutes recorded at Congregation & Corporation meeting held on 2-21-21 and Congregation

# meeting held on 9-29-21, and Congregational Meeting held on 1-2-2022 were Approved.

Doug explained that the Clerk of Session responsibilities were being divided between Judy Blank and Paul Urian, with Paul acting as recording clerk to record all minutes for Session meetings.

Doug then yielded to our Associate Pastor, Rev. Nikki Passante, who presented information about Stephen Ministry Training and implementation. Lisa Hurd, a Stephen Ministry Team Leader expressed her excitement about providing high quality care for church members. This does not play a Pastoral role, but act as a support to Pastors. Stephen Ministers walk alongside someone in pain.

Pastor Gerdts introduced Corey Crumley and Warren Pross to present the Session Approved 2022 Budget. Discussion ensued about our budget, and concerns about meeting our budget were shared. Warren, Finance Committee chair spoke about how the mission of the congregation translates into dollars. Budget Task Force was established to accurately go through church finances in 2021. They worked to bring a balanced budget to Session for 2022. One of the changes is to develop a protocol disbursement of memorial funds. Doug thanked Warren and Corey.

Maggie Sell the PNC committee gave a brief update on the progression to bring a new Senior Pastor to FPC.

Doug presented the slate of Corporate Officers, and on motion, the following officers were approved.

President Paul Nussbaum
Vice President Lisa Hurd
Treasurer Corey Crumley
Assistant Treasurer
Secretary Margot Dark
Alan Stedman

# On Motion, the 2021 Annual Report was Approved with thanks to all.

A reminder to congregants that 'Per Capita' is due, and those with an IRA can donate directly to church.

Doug read the Memorial Meditation followed by singing "For All the Saints." He then offered prayer of thanks for their importance in the life of this church.

Motion to adjourn meeting was Approved. Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am. Rev. Passante led us in prayer to close the meeting.

Rev. Dr. Douglas D. Gerdts, Interim Senior Pastor Judy Blank, Clerk of Session

#### **MINUTES**

First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield Congregation Meeting to Call a Pastor Sunday, July 24, 2022

Due notice having been given, the Congregation meeting was held on the above date in Fellowship Hall. Moderator Associate Pastor, Rev. Nikki Passante called the meeting to order at 10:55 am with prayer.

# A quorum of 10% was present as declared by Secretary Pro-tem Paul Urian.

The Secretary Pro-tem certified that adequate notice of the call has been given in accordance with the congregation's and Presbytery's rules for minimum public notice of its meetings.

Pastor Nikki explained the voting process. Congregational votes to call a Pastor are by written ballot. There is one motion on the floor with two votes. The first vote by secret written ballot is yes or no to Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay as Pastor. After voting by written ballots the appointed tellers will count them, and Pastor Nikki will share the results. If Rev. Dr. Lindsay is approved, we will move immediately to vote on the Terms of Call which will be a voice vote and then show of hands if necessary.

A motion was made to call the Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay as Sr. Pastor at FPCH. The PNC presented their report and discussion followed. A vote was called after discussion ended. The tellers informed the Moderator of the vote totals and the Moderator declared that the Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay was called by the congregation to be Senior Pastor.

The Moderator immediately led a discussion of the Terms of Call. After ample opportunity for discussion the Moderator called for a voice vote on the Motion to accept the Terms of Call. The Motion passed.

Pastor Nikki then asked for a motion to dismiss the Nominating Committee with thanks and gratitude and a commendation for their faithfulness. The Motion passed.

The Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay was then called back into the room to be informed of the Congregation's decision. Joyous applause echoed throughout the room.

Motion to Adjourn was approved at 11:47 am and Pastor Nikki adjourned us with prayer.



Welcome Pastor Marvin Lindsay!

Rev. Nikki Passante, Associate Pastor Paul Urian, Recording Clerk and Secretary Pro-Tem

#### **MINUTES**

First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield Congregation Meeting to Elect Officers Sunday, January 29, 2023

A Congregation meeting was held on the above date in the Sanctuary. The Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay called the meeting to order at 11:07 am with prayer.

# A quorum of 10% was present as declared by the Clerk of Session.

The Clerk certified that adequate notice of the call has been given in accordance with the congregation's and Presbytery's rules for minimum public notice of its meetings.

The Moderator, Pastor Marvin opened the meeting with prayer. He then explained that the purpose of the meeting was to hear a report from the Nominating Committee

Betsy Westermaier, Nominating Committee Chairperson made opening remarks and noted that there are still Deacon and Elder roles yet to be filled. She encouraged the Congregation to take one of these roles or recommend others who might be willing to serve.

# Betsy moved that the following Officers be elected:

### Elders:

Lois Boyce, Rita Brown, Rachel Davis, Kae Fretz, Taylor Kamp, Mark Oswald, Barbara Sewell, and David Stedman

### **Deacons:**

Jack O'Malley, Amy Strauss, Kelly Stout

Nominating Committee for Upcoming Year: Carol Carty, Lisa Hurd, Lesley Kirsch, Quint Lerch, and Janet Sharke

Betsy called for any nominations from the floor. There were none.

The Moderator called for a voice vote on the Motion to Approve Officer Candidates. It was approved by acclimation.

Motion to Adjourn was approved at 11:14 am and Pastor Marvin adjourned us with prayer.

Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay, Senior Pastor Paul Urian, Recording Clerk

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### APPROVAL OF PASTORS' TERMS OF CALL

#### Senior Pastor's Terms of Call

| Salary                         | \$ 80,000 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Housing                        | 40,000    |
| FICA/SECA Relief               | 8,520     |
| Medical and Pension Dues       | 44,400++  |
| Business/Professional Expenses | 3,000**   |
| Continuing Education           | 750       |
| TOTAL                          | \$176,670 |

#### **Associate Pastor's Terms of Call**

| Salary and Housing                      | \$ 78,850 |
|---|-----------|
| Pension and Medical (Board of Pensions) | 29,196++  |
| Medical Reimbursement                   | 1,500     |
| Professional Expenses                   | 3,000**   |
| SECA Reimbursement                      | 6,141     |
| Study Leave                             | 750       |
| Total:                                  | \$116,613 |

++ Pension/Medical coverage is through Presbytery. It is mandatory. The cost is a percentage of the sum of Salary and Housing Allowance. Family Rate is 36.5%; Member only is 35.0%

\*\* Professional Allowances include expenses incurred in the course of work done for or with the church, including but not limited to automobile expenses at a rate per mile, membership in social and professional organizations, meetings of Synod or General Assembly, continuing education charges, miscellaneous costs relating to pastoral events with church members, books, liturgical garb, equipment or supplies. Vouchers are to be submitted: receipts required for expenditures more than \$25. Includes one-month vacation, two weeks study leave and 10 days sick leave, all required by the Presbytery.

#### **GOVERNANCE ACTION ITEMS**

Please refer to the Governance Committee Report to see proposed changes to the By-Laws (page 8).

## **REPORTS**

#### 2022 CLERK OF SESSION ANNUAL REPORT

Session has continued to remain active and handled adjustments to Zoom meetings, returning to in-person Worship, and using the combination of in person and live stream for worship.

Thanks to our Office Administrator, Anne Vial, we continue to keep our membership records up to date. If we haven't seen activity from a member for 2 years, we reach out with a letter to encourage them to rejoin us at FPC or let us know their current status If a confirmed member has turned 30, and has had no

activity since confirmation, we will try to contact them in order to either update their membership or remove them from our role. Since our church pays per capita for every member, it's financially sound to keep our records up to date. As of 12/31/22, we have 673 members.

We wished farewell to our Interim Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Doug Gerdts at the end of June. We are grateful to him for guiding us during our search for a permanent Senior Pastor. He stated at his last Sunday service that we grew on him. As an Interim, he did not want that to happen, but it did, and he will miss our congregation and wishes us well.

We welcomed our new Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay in September. He has brought enthusiasm and wonderful preaching to us. Our Associate Pastor, Rev. Nikki Passante, continues to bring enthusiasm and a wealth of knowledge, organization, and guidance to the board. Nikki has initiated Stephen Ministry to FPC and on March 6th, we had first Commissioning Service for 4 Stephen Ministry Leaders.

Session approved six special offerings including Super Bowl of Caring, One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peacemaking, Thanksgiving Turkeys, and Christmas Joy.

We were again able to conduct a Confirmation Class during 2022. We welcomed 9 confirmands to our membership on February 27. We did conduct 1 new member's class in November. We had a total of 7 individuals join our church by transfer certificates. We baptized 10 children.

If you have not been contacted by a church officer on a regular basis, please reach out to the church office to make us aware. Elders and Deacons have been assigned 'Care Lists' and we want to make sure that every member stays connected. Our hope is that this will help with communication in our large family of faith.

Communion was celebrated the first Sunday of each month during morning worship service and on Maundy Thursday. We continue to work together with the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey. We are thankful for Lee Federline, Rachel Davis, and Becky Bryan who faithfully attended the meetings. There were 11 monthly Session Meetings, 4 called Session meetings, and three Congregational Meetings held in 2022. (Minutes from 1/1/22 were included in 2021 annual report.)

As we enter 2023, we look to safely appreciate the many blessings and accomplishments of FPC as we respond to God's call

Submitted by Judy Blank, Clerk of Session

#### 2022 STATISTICAL REPORT

| Active Membership 12-31-21      | 682       |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Membership Gains:               |           |
| Profession of Faith             | 0         |
| Youth Profession of Faith       | 9         |
| Reaffirmation of Faith          | 0         |
| Certificate of Transfer         | 7         |
| Reinstated Members              | 0         |
| <b>Total Gains</b>              | 16        |
| M. 1. 11 Y                      |           |
| Membership Losses:              |           |
| Certificate of Transfer         | 1         |
| Death                           | 10        |
| Deletions                       | <u>14</u> |
| <b>Total Losses</b>             | 25        |
| Active Membership 12-31-22      | 673       |
| Additional Information for 2022 |           |
| Infant/Child Baptisms           | 9         |
| Adult Baptism (at Confirmation) | 1         |
| riadic Dapusin (at Communicion) | 1         |

#### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW)

The purpose of Presbyterian Women is to build a caring community of women through prayer and bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the PC(USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom. It is a purpose to which these extraordinary and dedicated women remind themselves regularly and strive to fulfill.

To satisfy the pledge to study the Bible, PW uses the yearly Horizons Bible Study. The 2022-2023 study is *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight* by Carol M. Bechtel (Suggestions for Leaders by Laura Maiko Cheifez) In the nine lessons of this Bible study—with passages from Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Matthew, Luke, and Acts—Sabbath is considered

- as a celebration, not a day of dreary formality
- as God's intent for all of creation that includes busy women too
- as one day of the week, perhaps a Sunday
- as a time to surrender unhealthy striving and frantic busyness, and instead trust that God will provide
- as a reminder that life is precious and working too much is against God's plans for our precious lives
- as a day devoted to community and justice and not exclusively to self-care.

Ultimately, Sabbath reminds us to honor God who honors us by giving us a day each week to reset our pace, our priorities, and our lives. There are three thriving **Circles** in PW working together as well as independently on mission and service projects of interest to each circle. Circle 1 were able to meet regularly again and made items to give to those who need a little extra care. They made child's knotted fleece blankets to distribute to single mother homes, walker totes and lap robes for nursing homes, and Serenity shawls. The circle has also started crocheting baby blankets. At the Interfaith Caregivers Holiday

Fair, in December items were sold to help raise money for the missions PW supports. Circles 3 and 4 are actively involved in the Horizon's Bible Study as well as independent mission projects. In addition, a Walking Group was formed for the purpose of enjoying the outdoors and the company of one another as well as getting a little exercise. It has been a very welcome addition to our activities.



Made for walking – PW Walking Group Feet

For the past five years PW has participated in the **UrbanPromise Student Sponsorship Program**. Founded in 1997, UrbanPromise Academy (9-12) offers Camden youth a unique schooling opportunity with a low teacher to student ratio, a family-style learning environment, an emphasis on community service, and experiential and expeditionary learning. UrbanPromise Academy currently boasts a 98% graduation rate and sees 93% of graduates enter college. UrbanPromise Academy educates approximately 150 Camden-area youth each year offering a challenging curriculum with an emphasis on experiential learning and character development. In 2022 PW sponsored freshman Siani.

**Kiva** is an international nonprofit, founded in 2005 in San Francisco, with a mission to expand financial access to help underserved communities thrive. More than 1.7 billion people around the world are unbanked and can't access the financial services they need. Since April 2016, PW has continued to support Kiva with loans. An initial outlay of \$,2500 in loans from Esther Gray's memorial funding has expanded financial access to these underserved communities.

For the year 2022, nine (9) loans have been made, totaling \$925 in 7 countries. These countries include Kenya, Columbia, Paraguay, Indonesia, Palestine, Georgia (2), and Tajikistan (2). As in years past, the majority of these loans were for the purpose of education, and others for housing, health, and food.

As in 2021, during this year of 2022, two (2) loans were completely repaid. As money is repaid, new loans are made and thus the cycle continues.

\$5,162,08

**Mission** giving consisted of contributions to PW Worldwide Mission, PW of West Jersey Presbytery, Blanket Appeal, the Thank Offering, Birthday Offering and Fellowship of the Least Coin.

PW's mission giving is made possible by pledges, memorial gifts, and contributions from PW members as well as fundraising activities such as the Strawberry Festival, and the Blanket Appeal. Due to the pandemic, PW was unable to participate in the regular fundraising efforts. To give aid without sending funds PW actively supported some charities' fundraising efforts. A booth was purchased at the InterFaith Caregivers Holiday Fair, held in Fellowship Hall because of inclement weather. Equal Exchange products were sold as well as handmade items by Circle 1. It was hoped in that way support could be given even though no significant monetary donation could be made.

Although still unable to hold our major fundraiser, the Strawberry Festival, PW was able to fulfill Special Mission Giving commitments from reserves. Donations were made to the Wildwood Fresh Air Home, Aselsi (Guatemala Milk Fund), InterFaith Caregivers, Caring Hearts Ministry, St. Wilfrid's Ministry, Feed My Starving Children, Joseph's House, and Your Food Shelf.

PW continues its mission to sell products through the **Equal Exchange Project.** Equal Exchange products are organic, fairly traded, and grown by small farms. This project, which includes selling a variety of coffees, teas, olive oil and chocolate bars, assists small farmers in Central America, Asia, Africa, and our own country in receiving a fair price for their products enabling their families to have a better living.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, PW opened a booth at the InterFaith Caregivers Holiday Fair. It was an opportunity to sell Equal Exchange products, meet people and enjoy the day. The Equal Exchange Shop is open each Sunday morning in the parlor. Although not a fundraiser but a mission project, the Equal Exchange Project does generate a very modest income. Those monies are added to the mission budget

The Women's Prison Ministry continued its support of the women confined to the Camden County Correctional Facility. Monthly deliveries of devotions, pencil games, coloring pages and colored pencils were made, and team members met with the women twice a month via Zoom. A total of eighty bags were filled as Christmas gifts to the women.

Weekly video updates from **ASELSI Ministries** in Chichicastenango, Guatemala were shared with the Coordinating Team. ASELSI is the Association Equipping the Saints International (a Guatemalan ministry) focused on training leaders and serving the poor. Their ministry includes the Guatemala Milk Project which PW supports.

In April PW created a **Pinwheel Garden** to bring awareness to the issue of child abuse. Children created the garden.

Pinwheels were purchased from Prevent Child Abuse – New Jersey as a donation of \$100. The agency works to build a brighter future for children by promoting Great Childhoods, positive parenting, and healthy child development.

The Spring Luncheon was held at Ponzio's Restaurant. Invitations were sent to members and other PWs in the presbytery. The speaker was Gina DiMarco from Joseph's House. Telling the story of Joseph's House, she spoke of the various needs of the homeless in Camden that are addressed by services available there. Officers installed were Judy Grantham (Moderator), Linda Hess (Vice Moderator), and Circle Leaders Bonnie Manskopf, Sally O'Brien, and Peggy Spellmeyer. Honorary Life Memberships were awarded to Bonnie Manskopf and Joan Miller for their dedicated service to PW. It was a lovely event.

Submitted by Judy Grantham, Moderator.

STARTING BALANCE 1-01-22

#### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FINANCIAL REPORT

| STARTING BALANCE 1-01-22          | \$5,162.08        |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| INCOME                            |                   |
| Horizon Bible Study               | \$282.00          |
| Birthday Offering                 | 82.00             |
| CWS Blanket Appeal                | 480.00            |
| Equal Exchange Sales              | 2,393.83          |
| General Fund                      | 50.00             |
| Interest Income                   | 7.35              |
| Fellowship Of the Least Coin      | 29.66             |
| Pledge Income Received            | 1,020.00          |
| Thank Offering                    | 261.00            |
| TOTAL INCOME                      | \$4,639.56        |
| <u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>              |                   |
| Birthday Offering                 | \$82.00           |
| CWS Blanket Appeal Funds          | 480.00            |
| Equal Exchange                    | 1,980.04          |
| General Fund                      | 208.13            |
| Pledge to Women in the Presbytery | 600.00            |
| Your Food Shelf                   | 100.00            |
| Mission Giving                    | 900.00            |
| Thank Offering                    | 261.00            |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS               | \$4,611.17        |
| ENDING BAI.ANCE                   | \$5,190.47        |
| ESTHER GRAY MONEY MARKET          |                   |
| ACCOUNT                           | ф <b>т</b> 000 13 |
| TOTAL                             | \$7,900,43        |

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Preschool celebrated 52 years of serving families with young children from Haddonfield, Haddon Township, Cherry Hill, and surrounding communities. First Presbyterian Church Preschool, as a ministry of the church, shares God's love with the children and their families.

In January 2022, there were 224 children enrolled in our nursery school program. In September 2022, we enrolled 234 children in our program! Our enrollment has steadily increased since 2021. We offer classes for children ages 18 months – 6 years old. Additional class offerings include specialty classes, STREAM and Discovery days as well as creative classes—Music, Art, Movement, and Yoga for children ages 3-6. Forty-two dedicated and caring staff members provide a wonderful academic and social experience in a loving atmosphere at First Presbyterian Preschool.

The preschool faced many challenges during the pandemic. This year, we cannot express how thankful we are to be having a typical experience once again! Covid no longer consumes our days. Everyone 6 months or older is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine in New Jersey. We encourage families to vaccinate so children are less likely to get sick and more likely to stay in school enjoying the things they love. The NJDOH guidelines for COVID are streamlined and allow children to participate in their programs to the fullest extent possible.

This year we added a Discovery class for our 2 ½ year olds. The focus of this class is primarily exposure to children's song books and stories to support language development. It also provides this age group with an extra class day for socialization. In the 2022 school year we also increased the number of days our Kindergarten age children could attend our programs. This age group now has the option to attend STREAM and/or a Discovery Day in addition to the Dreamcatcher, 3-day program. The STREAM class engages children in several science units of study, including Force and Motion, Outer Space, Liquids and Solids, the Human Body, and Earth Science. Class time consists of direct instruction, hands-on science experiments, and center/exploration time. The Discovery curriculum is geography based and rotates between traveling the globe to different countries and traveling the United States. Class time is spent learning about the geographical location and unique culture.

As in past years, student tuition pays all programs expenses: Salaries for staff members, rent, classroom materials, toys/equipment, office supplies, telephone, publicity, maintenance fees, preschool cleaning, etc.

# Gifts that have been given to the Preschool - \$1,600

"Thank you" to Barbara Sewall (former director), Kirby Family (former teacher), Nussbaum Family (current teacher), and the Thon Family (current preschool family.)

#### Grants - \$266,926

In 2022, the preschool applied for and was awarded a substantial amount of money. Two rounds of the Hiring and Retention Bonus were received for our staff, totaling \$71,926. Funding sources include Federal American Rescue Plan and the NJ Revitalization Fund. To earn the grant, staff members were certified in First Aid and CPR, and they completed 10 hours of training on the topic of best practices in early childhood education.

The Federal American Rescue Plan also funded the Stabilization Grant in the amount of \$195,000. A percentage of these funds must be awarded to staff in the form of a "bonus." Funds may also be used for expenses related to health and safety and operational expenses.

### Area Improvements - \$60,626

The grant money earned has allowed us to make several significant area improvements. The preschool fully funded the renovation of a storage closet to a bathroom on the 3rd floor (2R.) This has made a tremendous difference for the classes held on that floor. New carpet and flooring were installed in Room 103, the Red Balloon classroom/Church nursery.

On the playground, the retaining wall was reinforced, gates were repaired, sand and mulch were refreshed. In the building, lighting was replaced with more efficient LED lights, and painting was completed in stairwells, hallways, and classrooms.

## School Programs - \$11,603

A variety of school programs were held. In the winter/spring of 2022, our 4-year-old classes enjoyed a visit with the Owls from Cedar Run Wildlife Center, we held our Mother's Day celebrations, and End of Year Program. In the fall, we brought back many programs that were suspended due to COVID guidelines. We provided Teacher Inservice, Egg Hatching/Chicks from Quiver Farm, Parent-Sharing Night, Halloween Parades, the 3's Thanksgiving program, 4's/TK Christmas Pageant, visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

## Preschool Fundraising - \$10,800

Fundraising supports improvements to the Preschool. During 2022, we ran several fundraisers. Our annual Spring Flower Sale continues to be our largest fundraiser. We held our 2nd annual Pumpkin Raffle for Halloween, where the teachers painted pumpkins that were raffled off during our Halloween parades. We held another raffle during the holidays. The winner received a gift basket full of donated gift cards to local restaurants and shops downtown. In December, we held a *Support Local* Fundraiser, where many shops and restaurants participated and gave a percentage of their sales to the Preschool. Sue Heindel's exercise class also continues to contribute to our fundraising efforts each year.

#### **Annual Preschool Expenses:**

Rent to Church – \$60,000 Salaries - \$477,582 Preschool Taxes - \$38,017 QuickBooks Payments/Fees - \$13,808 Room Cleaning – \$22,420 Classroom Materials - \$13,426 Management Materials - \$15,487 Preschool telephone, copier, computer – \$9,099 Insurance- \$13,246 Publicity – \$1,416

Sincerely, Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director

#### MISSION/OUTREACH MINISTRY

With the constraints brought on by the Covid epidemic lessening, the Mission and Outreach committee was able to engage the congregation and broader community in hands-on service in 2022. The church's tenuous financial situation impacted our ability to offer monetary support to partner agencies at the same level as in past years, but we were able to financially support the Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's in Camden; the Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council (IHOC); Guatemala Milk Fund, which provides milk and medical care for babies; UrbanPromise Wellness Center; the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey (Presbytery Mission); Kids Alley; PC(USA) General Assembly Mission; Feed My Starving Children (FMSC); CROP Walk; and the REHAB Project in Pakistan.

Last spring, the Mission committee participated in the national CROP Hunger Walk, which raised funds to provide food, shelter, mental health care and child protection for Ukrainians seeking safety. Church members solicited financial support and Sunday School students received donation boxes to help raise funds. Additionally, last spring, the Mission Committee donated to Ukrainian relief efforts organized by PC(USA) and FMSC. Elder Margot Dark and her family worked with artist Diana Stimson to create yard signs in support of Ukraine. They donated all proceeds to the FMSC relief program, which continues to provide food in Ukraine and to Ukrainian refugees who have fled their homes.

Also in the spring, a few volunteers from our church took part in a cleanup at Mount Peace Cemetery in Lawnside, where efforts are ongoing to preserve an historically Black cemetery suffering from neglect and disrepair. We look forward to working with Mount Peace in future. In the summer, the committee contributed to Youth Promise Kenya to help James Mereithi, a former fellow with UrbanPromise International, expand the Youth Promise Resource Centre.

In July, Mission chair Caroline Yount led the Mission station at VBS. The theme for the week was "Mission Means Helping" and each day the children learned that no one is too young to help, and no effort is too small. The first day, they

helped the FPC church family by making cards for those on the prayer list; on Tuesday, they helped the Earth by learning ways to care for the planet and highlighting the importance of pollinators; throughout the week, they also helped those served by Joseph's House in Camden by making dozens of sandwiches and assembling bagged lunches; and helped animal shelters by learning about what they do and making toys out of old T-shirts to entertain the dogs housed there. The VBS campers, who ranged in age from preschoolers through fifth graders, and their teenage shepherds responded enthusiastically to these opportunities to serve others.

All ages from our church continue to contribute to the ongoing vibrant ministry at St. Wilfrid's, which in 2022 distributed 4,386 food bags over 38 Saturdays. In addition, the volunteers at St. Wilfrid's worked tirelessly also to distribute toys, fans, backpacks and school supplies, winter coats and other clothing as well as turkeys at Thanksgiving and fresh vegetables in the summer. Special thanks to Rose Guthrie for performing her annual holiday magic to prepare and distribute more than 300 bags of toys with at least three toys per bag at Christmas and to Elder Paul Urian for his ongoing efforts coordinating volunteers for massive pick-ups from the Food Bank of South Jersey and Saturday mornings at the clinic. The clinic also distributed hundreds of lovingly made peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, toiletries for men and women and thousands of diapers.

The Mission committee was thrilled in October to bring back monthly cooking at the church for the impoverished and unsheltered people served by Joseph's House. This hands-on faith-in-action takes place at 1 p.m. on the last Tuesday of every month. A new service night for Middle School and High School students was held in October with cooking and assembling bagged lunches for Joseph's House and in November, the young people made centerpieces for Cathedral Kitchen. The service night resumed in February 2023 and going forward will be held on the first Sunday of each month.

Donations and outreach efforts were not limited to St. Wilfrid's and Joseph's House. Turkeys were collected by the Dark family to be distributed for Thanksgiving dinners through "Your Food Shelf" in Camden. During Advent, new toys, mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, coats, and gift cards were distributed to families in need by Ed Hess, caseworker for the Haddonfield Council of Churches.

As in previous years, a portion of the Pentecost offering was donated to Kids Alley. The Pentecost offering is one of four special offerings our church collects for PC(USA) to support its work. The other special offerings are Peace and Global Witness, collected on the first Sunday of October; One Great Hour of Sharing, collected on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday; and Christmas Joy.

The committee is in search of new members as we find even more opportunities for the congregation and broader community to engage in bringing aid and comfort to those in need as we spread the good news of God's everlasting love. Regular monthly meetings will be held immediately following worship on the first Sunday of each month.

Respectfully submitted by Caroline Yount, Mission and Outreach committee chair



Haddonfield Fall Festival FPCH Table L to R: Kelly Stout, Margot Dark, Caroline Yount

#### MARKETING AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

2022 saw the first full year of the Marketing/Outreach Committee, formerly called Communications Committee. Our focus is promoting all that is happening within the church in the print media, on social media, and to the community at large. We finished our 150-anniversary year with several events. First the Worship and Music committee sponsored a jazz concert with our own Lucas Brown and his trio that was very well received and attended. We also made our presence known at the Fall Festival where the Mission and Outreach Committee had the public make gratitude jars. We have been placing welcoming banners on the front lawn, and our committee is responsible for the new artwork in the hall. We have changed out a couple pieces and are working to change out more (once Rev. Dr. Lindsay is installed). We will be working on updating some of the signage throughout the church.

Respectfully submitted by Margot Dark, chair

#### **STEPHEN MINISTRY**

Your Stephen Ministry Leadership team is pleased to provide an update on the ongoing training of our two Stephen Ministers, Donna George, and Paul Sommers.

The training sessions kicked off in early October and we have conducted eight three-hour sessions in the intervening weeks. Training takes place in-person at the church, led on a rotating basis by Stephen Leaders Rev. Nikki Passante, Carol Carty, Lisa Hurd, and Joyce Stout. To date, we've explored such topics as "The Art of Listening," "A Process Approach to Caring," and "Maintaining Boundaries in Caregiving," and have undertaken

in-depth discussions of the books "Distinctively Christian Caring" and "Speaking the Truth in Love." The training resources provided by Stephen Ministry St. Louis are highly professional and comprehensive, providing opportunities for indepth discussion, role playing, etc. Bi-weekly training sessions will continue through the end of March 2023, and we expect to commission our Stephen Ministers for service on Palm Sunday.

Donna and Paul are going to be wonderful Stephen Ministers. They are deeply thoughtful and compassionate people, with life skills developed through their careers that make them uniquely qualified to provide the kind of caring Stephen Ministers are trained to deliver. It's an honor to serve with them.

We expect to begin another round of information sessions for the next class of Stephen Ministers later in the spring. Stay tuned!

Submitted by Lisa Hurd, Joyce Stout, Carol Carty

#### **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

The Governance Committee has worked this past year on developing the First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield's Manual of Administrative Operations which is required by the Presbyterian Book of Order and which includes important church historical and administrative documents, policies and procedures. The Governance Committee has also regularly reviewed and proposed updates to Church Bylaws, Session Standing Rules, Session Committee Charters and Session Elder's Handbook as well as responding to Session Committee and staff requests for information.

The Governance Committee is proposing adoption of amendments to Church Bylaws (available as a second document) which provide for:

- 1. Authorization of electronic meetings.
- 2. Acknowledging the creation of a position of recording clerk for Session and authorizing them to act as Secretary at Congregation meetings
- 3. Acknowledging change of name from West Jersey Presbytery to Presbytery *for* Southern New Jersey
- 4. Requiring a full financial review of all financial books and records to be conducted annually by a public accountant or committee of members versed in accounting procedures and a full audit should be done at least every five years.

In addition the Governance Committee proposes a resolution to adopt and affirm business conducted at electronic or hybrid Congregational meetings from March 2020 to present. Such actions were limited – including receiving reports of the Session and the Board of Deacons, receive the report of the Nominating Committee and electing members of the Session, the Board of Deacons, and the Nominating Committee. The

proposed amendments to Congregation Bylaws expressly authorize electronic meetings moving forward.

All business conducted at electronic or hybrid Congregational meetings from March 2020 to present shall hereby be ratified by the Congregation.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Governance Committee by Lorraine Gormley-Devine, Esq., Chairperson, Governance Committee

#### PROPERTY COMMITTEE

In 2022, the Property Committee moved forward with many improvements and upgrades to our buildings and grounds.

- The Parlor was extensively remodeled, with new carpeting, ceiling, French doors, lighting, and furniture. Special thanks to the Bean Family Foundation, which contributed funding in memory of Skip Bean, and to Margaret O'Neil, Bonnie Bell, Janet Lehman, Robin Wright, and Lesley Kirsch for directing the project.
- Solar panels were installed on the roof of the Education Building, to reduce the church's reliance on fossil fuels and to lower our electricity costs.



Solar Panel Installation

- The kitchen of the Wezner House at 20 Chestnut Street was remodeled to make it a welcoming temporary home for new senior pastor Marvin Lindsay. After the Lindsay family purchased a home in December, the committee began consideration of new ways to use the space.
- The Manse, which was extensively updated and rehabilitated in 2021, got a water-remediation system in the basement to deal with intermittent flooding.
- The landscaping in front of the church was overhauled to remove and replace shrubbery and improve visibility.
- In cooperation with the Preschool, efforts were begun to upgrade security locks and communication devices for the church's exterior doors.
- Parking lots were restriped.
- The original pastor's office on the second floor was remodeled to accommodate the arrival of Rev. Lindsay.

The Property Committee and Building Manager Travis Bogetti are grateful to the congregation for its support and contributions, which have allowed us to maintain and improve the spaces where we worship and serve.

Paul Nussbaum, Chair Mike Adkins Bonnie Bell Chuck Bell Clair Blank Peter Hurd Lesley Kirsch Janet Lehman Wayne McAllister Margaret O'Neil Alan Stedman

Rev. Doug Gerdts, ex officio (Jan.-June) Rev. Marvin Lindsay, ex officio (Sept.-Dec.)

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee meets monthly, initially to formulate the budget. The process includes anticipating revenue for the upcoming year based on pledge projections from the Stewardship Committee, current giving, rental income, bequests, and special gifts. In addition, the committee reviews the revenue requests from the church committees along with the salary recommendations from the Personnel Committee. A proposed budget is then presented for Session approval.

For the 2023 church year, the Finance Committee recommended that Session adopt an interim budget for January through June 2023. Since this interim budget reflected a deficit of \$64,529, the committee recommended that Session approve participation in Project Regeneration with the Presbyterian Foundation to assist in facilitating a sounder fiscal strategy for the remainder of 2023 and on-going in 2024. Session approved both recommendations on January 31, 2023. Following budget approval, the committee monitors expenses on a monthly basis. A financial statement from the Treasurer is provided for monthly review to the Session.

Note: Terms of Call for ordained clergy are recommended by Session but must be approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

Submitted by Warren Pross, Chair

#### **INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

The Investment Committee holds quarterly meetings with our advisor, Mr. Alan Blender from Ameriprise, and includes Bill Wright as well as myself. We are planning our next meeting to be in the next month or so to review our portfolio and discuss current market conditions and strategies. 2022 was a very challenging year as the Investment Fund balances ended the

# First Presbyterian Church 2022 Annual Report

year down substantially. We concluded this year with an aggregate/all-inclusive fund balance of \$531,739; while the Investment Account we oversee ended the year with a balance of \$514,693, down from \$785,331 in 2021; but it should be noted that we withdrew \$165,000 for budgetary purposes. Consistent with prior years, our investment strategy remains in the range of a 60% Equity/40% Fixed Income split and we will continue to rebalance to that position throughout the year.

James L. Hoobler, Investment Chair

#### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Members of the Stewardship Committee are deeply grateful to all those who participated in the campaign for 2023, especially those who have made a financial a pledge for the coming year. Pledges for 2023 so far total \$428,032.95. Pledging allows for the Finance committee to plan, and the funds themselves enable the programs and missions that make First Presbyterian who we are. Thank you for your commitment and for all of the gifts we receive throughout the year. Additional thanks to the leadership of Pastor Marvin and to Kris Bean in the church office for their work in 2022.

Deb Nussbaum, Rebeca Silva De Foote

#### STAFF REPORTS

## MARVIN LINDSAY, SENIOR PASTOR

Dear First Presbyterian Community,

Thank you for calling me to be your pastor. Ministry with you is rewarding and fun. I'm having the time of my life!

In my first months of ministry, I have prioritized getting to know you better. I have spent a lot of time drinking coffee at Saxby's with elders, members of the church, and newcomers to the congregation. Wednesday night spaghetti dinners with our youth musicians was also a recurring event on my schedule. My coffee ministry is continuing in 2023, and I'm supplementing it with home visitations. You don't have to wait for me to call or email you for a visit. Feel free to contact me!

First Presbyterian is a worshipful, joyful, caring community. You do Advent and Christmas well, thanks to Peter, Lucas, Nancy Ruth, as well as Anne's expertly crafted bulletins and many volunteer vocalists, musicians, and tech managers! In 2022 the church continued to maintain and upgrade its facilities at 20 Kings Highway. Our solar panel system is now operational. The parlor has been given a makeover. At the end of 2022, progress was being made on a new door locking system that allows the staff to pre-program times when the church doors are unlocked and allows the staff to buzz in

visitors at other times. Travis, Marisa, and the Property Committee have led the way with these initiatives. You care for the least of these in Camden County by staffing the Saturday clinic at St. Wilfrid's in Camden, cooking for Joseph's House, caring for incarcerated women, and in so many other ways. In the final quarter of 2022, a great group of lay volunteers was preparing nearly a dozen confirmands to be active, faithful members of First Presbyterian Church.

In 2022 we said goodbye to Interim Pastor Doug Gerdts. FPCH member Gab Heimerling departed from her role as Director of Children's and Youth Ministries. I'm grateful for their service during the extremely challenging times that preceded my arrival. I'm grateful that Rev. Nikki Passante is my colleague in ministry. I appreciate her sermons, her energy and sense of humor, and her work to "onboard" me in this faith community.

Unfortunately, the church had to draw from reserve funds to meet its budget in 2022. The Finance Committee expects we will have to do so again in 2023. There is good news, however. The Governance and Finance Committees worked with Kris Bean to apply for the Employee Retention Credit, a Covid relief program enacted in 2020. Thanks to their hard work, the church and the preschool expect to receive a substantial sum of money from the federal government in the second half of 2023.

For all these reasons, the Session has adopted a six-month budget for 2023. Between now and June 30, the Session will engage in the Project Regeneration Program sponsored by the Presbyterian Foundation, the investment arm of our denomination. Project Regeneration is not a capital campaign, and its facilitators are not consultants. Instead, Project Regeneration will provide for a deep analysis of the church's financial and human resources in the context of prayer and study. The goal is to help the Session define our mission for a post-Covid era, align our resources with that mission, and adopt a long-term budget for the remainder of 2023 and 2024. Everyone has a part to play in this process. Our Lenten book studies will use Rev. Joan Gray's Sailboat Church. Conversation about Rev. Gray's book is part of Project Regeneration.

There is so much else I could write about, but I don't want to try your patience on Super Bowl Sunday! I'm looking forward to finishing out my first year in Haddonfield and ministering among you for many more.

Grace and Peace to you,

Marvin Lindsay

### NIKKI PERRINE PASSANTE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

What follows are the highlights of ministry from the past year, arranged in no particular order of importance. This report is a synthesis of monthly/quarterly reports submitted to the session

monthly as a courtesy. My work and ministry for this year moved consistently on two key tracks: **Pastoral Care** and **Equipping Lay Leadership**, with special attention to **Deacons** and **Transition** (see below).

#### Pastoral Care

- The bulk of my ministry continues to be through pastoral care and being present to others in any situation. I'm most times walking alongside someone who is actively dying, and then accompanying the family afterwards, for a period of time, into the labyrinth that is grief. This is a most excellent use of my time.
- I average 20-25 pastoral care visits a month. These are in-person contacts whether at the hospital, in-home, or at the office. At any given time, I'm meeting with at least 2 congregation members a week for counseling (this number has expanded to 6 at times), whether regularly for check-ins or simply to get over a hump.

#### Worship

- This year I've officiated 5 weddings (4 of these were non-member weddings), numerous services at gravesides, funeral homes and our own church that give witness to Christ's resurrection power, and performed a baptism for another PC(USA) congregation as well as several within our own.
- I often get calls to do funerals for folks outside of this congregation. I always welcome these calls – they're wonderful opportunities to share the Good News!
- The records for these blessed events are all housed with the clerk of session and Anne Vial (and likely elsewhere within the many pages of this Annual Report!).
- Each one of these names/couples/events represents a relationship, hours of counseling, lots of energy and compounding joy. Praise Be to God!
- I preach within our congregation once a month.

#### Stephen Ministry

Please see the Stephen Ministry report included in this year's Annual Report.

\*In almost all cases, within a church, the pastor serves as a resource to a committee. In the instance of Stephen Ministry, I don't serve as a resource but as a member of a team. I'm anticipating the joy of this year when we begin matching our Stephen Ministers with people who need Christ-centered care, and this church begins witnessing the fruit of this ministry.

# Christian Ed

 This year I offered two book studies on Wednesday nights via Zoom. We studied Simplicity by Richard Rohr (folks were not a fan!! I'm only being transparent and seeing if you are still reading this report), wrapping up our study with a potluck at the Manse.
 During the summer, Rachel Davis partnered with me

- to offer *Friedman's Fables*. We wrapped up that book study with a dinner at Kunkel's.
- I'm looking forward to resurrecting my Thursday evening Bible study after Easter 2023. We will be studying Genesis.

#### **Deacons**

There is a lot of wonderful energy within the church's Deacon board! Thank you to **Dan Cho** who served as the Deacon Moderator for 2022, and thank you to **Joan Fiorella** who is the fearless Deacon Moderator for 2023. Thank you also to **Quint Lerch** who serves as the steadfast Deacon Treasurer!

#### 1. Ushering

Ushering has expanded to include anyone who is interested, with an emphasis on participation from all Deacons and Elders. I offered usher training at 2 different times; a total of 12 people attended. Ministry Scheduler Pro Software was incorporated – thank you to **Kris Bean** – and is the medium through which a growing number of ministry tasks and events are being scheduled. **Anne Montgomery**, one of our newest members, agreed to serve as Head Usher in partnership with Kris Bean as the manager of the software.

#### Training:

At the close of the spring, two training events were offered. One for our ushers in regard to training using the new scheduling software and worship practices; the other training event was a Safety Preparedness Training for all church officers.

#### Safety Preparedness:

Anne Montgomery initiated contact with Lt. Holloway from the Haddonfield Police Department, who came and spoke to the staff about planning for active shooter situations, along with overall safety measures. It was eye-opening for us all. Lt. Holloway came again and spoke to a wider audience within the church including church officers.

Discussions and efforts among leadership and staff will need to continue to put some of the suggestions offered into effect.

#### 2. Budget Overlap

There is an overlap in financial giving between Mission and Deacons. While not exceptionally large, it's noteworthy.

I reflected this to the Deacons at their September meeting, and that a majority of the council's meeting time goes to talking about money, and raising said money. This observation has shifted the conversation since.

The Deacon ministry is one of compassion, witness, and service to the members of our congregation. Donating money to mission causes is the work and ministry of the Mission Committee. I made a strong suggestion that the Deacons return to what they are ordained to do: Care for our members. The Ministry of the Deacons is proceeding along two tracks:

# First Presbyterian Church 2022 Annual Report

- 1. Focus and delineate precisely what the Deacons ministries and subcommittees are.
- 2. Adopt a budget that is faithful to those tasks.

To my surprise, this call to action was welcomed by all. Through ongoing discussions since, it's clear the Deacons are up for this important and necessary shift. I assured them, and this body as well, that no decisions will be made in a rush, and we will be transparent as we move through a process that we are faithfully working to discern.

This process involves moving the amount of money that the Deacons *give to mission*, *over to the Mission Committee itself*. Myself, Marvin, Dan Cho, Joan Fiorella, Quint, and Ed Hess, have met together (some in-person and some over email) and shared conversation around some obvious questions – such as the allocation/collection of the 1st Sunday Deacon's offering – and outlined some initial steps to move forward. It seems that *all that needs to be done is to educate the congregation they have always been giving to Mission the 1st Sunday of every month*. What we are suggesting is taking the Deacons out of the task of money-changing and adopt a more focused approach of care for our members and friends.

These Deacon conversations about reallocating resources and money is Stewardship. We are seeking to answer the question 'Are we doing what it is we say we are doing?' This is a consistent theme in many ministry groups, as well as the need for orientation and training around officer roles and purpose. These conversations are continuing and will be reflected to you, the congregation.

#### **Transition:**

During the summer months the church was without a Head of Staff. Prior to this season I spent much time putting together a plan for said months.

#### 1. Worship

The first was a Sunday morning worship schedule that could be amended, shortened, or extended as needed. I put this together so that Anne Vial, myself, Peter, and Lucas had something to plan from for Sunday mornings. I thoroughly enjoyed putting together worship through the summer into September. It was done far in advance to give staff members time to prepare in advance of leave/time off. I was pleased with the variety of preachers, the ease with which our elders led worship, and inviting and welcoming of Bruce Main into the pulpit. I'm always grateful for a variety of voices in worship!

# 2. Session: Officer Training

During this season, the session met in an unofficial capacity for educational purposes. In July I held an in-service on *Presbyterian Polity – Why We Govern Ourselves the Way We Do.* In August, we discussed a handout from Interim Ministry that illustrated differences in church size, structure, and expectations, and how that intersects with our reality. We also touched on the differences between being focused on

*Maintenance vs. Mission*, another handout which was distributed. These discussions were fruitful.

# **In Closing:**

Here are some special odds and ends:

- Moderated the Session of First Presbyterian Church Merchantville at the request of the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey.
- Preached one of the 7 last words at the community Good Friday service
- Enjoy breakfast and comradery with my colleagues serving at churches in Haddonfield.
- Led the Craft station for VBS
- Moderated the Congregational Meeting to elect a Senior Pastor for First Presbyterian Church.
- Led New Member's classes welcomed (and are still welcoming) 12 new members in 2022.
- Participated in the Interfaith Christmas House Tour. I likely will never decorate for Christmas again.
- Hosted an open house at the Manse in June where we celebrated (? lol) the leaving of one Senior Pastor. Thank you to Maggie Sell and Deb Nussbaum who handled food preparation, management, and lots of other things I'm quite certain!
- Hosted an open house at the Manse in December where
  we celebrated the welcoming of a new Senior Pastor and
  his family. Mr. Passante grilled an obscenely large
  amount of meat. Several deacons were very pleased by
  this.

Living in the Manse is a ministry in itself. It's great to know the crossing guards, the substitutes for the crossing guards, and several of the shop owners. I often get to deliver flowers to the Episcopal church when they're accidentally delivered to ours, and have even gotten sucked into a rogue funeral on occasion because 'my dog Louise is too cute to stand outside while a celebration of the resurrection is happening inside.'

Speaking of resurrection, at a recent memorial I heard a Lutheran say, 'we all know Jesus's first miracle (turning water into wine), but who knows his last?' I confessed silently, I did not know Jesus's last miracle. The suggestion was resurrection. I must get specific here.

Resurrection isn't a miracle. Resurrection is Who Jesus Is. After Lazarus dies in the Gospel of John, Jesus says to Mary and Martha quite simply: 'I Am Resurrection. I Am Life. Do You Believe This?'

May the upcoming Lenten season bring all the grace, mercy, joy, Resurrection and Life, so desired.

In Christ's Service, and Respectfully Submitted, Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante

#### PETER LEIBENSPERGER, MINISTER OF MUSIC

In 2022, the music program's participation numbers held relatively steady with about 40 active bell choir members and about 60 active vocal choir members.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to each choir member who sang and rang this year. We also thank the volunteer soloists and instrumentalists for their regular participation in worship. Your music added to our worship every week of the year.

The year was filled with beautiful anthems and special events that are only possible when there are dedicated and talented choir members, choir parents, and a supportive congregation. Some of these special events included the Thomas Sherrerd Memorial Choir's NYC Trip, the Candlelight Service, our jazz concert to celebrate the church's 150th anniversary on March 4th, and two concerts on November 13th by a string quartet to raise money for the music program.

Special thanks go to Lucas Brown, who brought his quartet to our church on March 4th. The group featured Lucas on organ, Byron Landham on drums, Chris Lewis on tenor saxophone, and Peter Bernstein on guitar. Together, they brought joy and enthusiasm to the crowd of 143 people, who gave \$1,891 to our music program.



Jazz Concert Banner

Special thanks also go to Margot Dark for organizing two concerts on November 13th to benefit the music program. The first concert featured tunes from animated films, and the second concert featured Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. The quartet featured Alexandr Kislitsyn on first violin, Aisha Dossumova on second violin, our own Kathryn Dark on viola, and Branson Yeast on cello. Together, the quartet raised \$942 for our music program.

This year, the music program also benefitted from many generous contributions. We are extremely grateful to the Zidek Family Foundation, which enabled us to hire Loren Greer, our choral intern, Liz Olson, our Carol Choir accompanist, and Paula Meyer, our Cherub Choir accompanist. This grant also helped to cover the cost of hiring professional musicians throughout the year to enhance our worship. Several other generous gifts from congregants also helped us to hire musicians for Christmas and Easter, to purchase music for our various choirs, and to provide gloves for our ringers. Money from the Ellie Barclay Memorial Fund also made it possible to fully refurbish our three-octave set of Malmark Bells, which we use heavily every week.

This year, we also established a relationship with a sister choir, Essence of Harmony. Our congregation recognizes that many composers of traditional African American spirituals were enslaved and therefore did not receive any royalties for their work. To help rectify this wrong, our church now publishes a QR code in the bulletin whenever a spiritual is featured in worship that allows congregants to donate to Essence of Harmony, a local choir that performs spirituals and provides musical opportunities to people of color. We hope that this small gesture will help to heal wounds and further our calling as a Matthew 25 congregation.

Please join me in expressing appreciation to our music staff: Lucas Brown, our Principal Organist; Nancy Ruth Wainwright, our director of Cherub & Carol Choirs and Whitechapel Bell Choir; Loren Greer our choral intern; Rebecca Lentine, our Thomas Sherrerd and Chapel Choir accompanist; Liz Olson, our Carol Choir accompanist; and Paula Meyer, our Cherub Choir accompanist. I am personally grateful to all of them for their hard work, dedication, and support.

Respectfully submitted, Peter S. Leibensperger

# GABRIELLE HEIMERLING, DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES THROUGH 2022

2022 brought the first full in person year since 2019 and it was so good to be consistently back together!

Sunday School: Sunday School across all levels started in person on September 18, 2022, with our bible Sunday. Sunday School levels are Preschool-Kindergarten (teachers Chuck and Jayne Grabowski and Kim Hall), 1st/2nd/3rd grade (teachers Wendy Preihs and Megan Zeigler), 4th/5th grades (teacher Gabrielle Heimerling), and 6th/7th/8th grade (teacher Tina Edmonston). We continued with the following Sunday School Curriculums: Preschool-kindergarten used Growing in Grace and Gratitude by the PC(USA) 1st/2nd/3rd grade classes used Holy Moly! by Sparkhouse, 4th/5th/6th grade used Connect by Sparkhouse, and the 7th/8th grade used Echo! The Story by Sparkhouse. We were lucky enough to be able to hold our Communion Class in person in April. We invited all eligible 3rd/4th/5th graders to participate in our 4 week Communion Class culminating in their Communion Sunday on April 3rd. Seven 3rd/4th/5th graders successfully participated in our program.

## First Presbyterian Church 2022 Annual Report

Confirmation Class: Our confirmation classes returned in September, led by Lee Federline and Clair Blank, Lindsay Sommers, with guest lecturers Deb Nussbaum, Pastor Nikki, and Becky Bryan. The class was open to 9th and 10th graders, with 11 students participating. Confirmands participated in all aspects of the Confirmation Service scheduled for February 5, 2023.

The Nursery: In-person nursery services are available during each service for infants and toddlers through 3 years old. Our wonderful nursery workers are a paid combination of high schoolers and adults who love to hang out with our youngest church members. During the summer the nursery was located in the hospitality room and in the fall it moved to the Red Balloon Room located in the Preschool.

**Children's Church:** Children's Church was available every Sunday during the Summer months. Kids ages 4-10 were invited to the CE/Communion Classroom to hear a bible story and participate in different related activities during the summer worship service.

Youth Group/High School Service Group: Youth Group started up again in September. Middle Schoolers met twice a month with one meeting being a games day and the second Sunday devoted to a Mission Project. Together with Caroline Yount (chair of the Mission Committee) we created Mission Sundays where Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers were able to participate in Service projects such as cooking for Joseph's House, making centerpieces for Cathedral Kitchen, and making hygiene kits for Church World Service.

Mission Trip: We had a very successful relaunch of FPCHs Mission Trip in 2022. 7 veteran chaperones and 14 first time students partnered with the Appalachia Service Project for a week of work in Floyd County, Kentucky. Some of the projects the team worked during their week: installing foam board behind siding, removing the existing shower, and laying the groundwork for a new shower, continuing the Hug (siding with foam board insulation) project by installing J channel, house wrap and foam around the mobile home and addition. The trip took place from June 25 - July 2, 2022.

## **Other Notable Events:**

**Easter Egg Hunt:** In April we held our second Easter Egg Hunt for our 10 and under friends on April 9th. It was a great success and so nice to see so many parents and kids show up for the fun. We are excited to continue this new tradition.

Vacation Bible School: We had an amazing time on Adventure Island this year at VBS. 41 Explorers crafted, bible-storied, missioned, music'd, snacked and gamed their hearts out! The Explorers were enthusiastic, kind, curious and FUN. Our incredible team of Station Leaders, 11 total, were top notch and brought their A Game every day. The 12 Shepherds were a group of kind, motivated, and enthusiastic teens and tweens who truly made camp a fun experience for

the Explorers. This is always one of the most busy, active, and FUN weeks of the year.



VBS 2022 - Closing Song

Bible Sunday/The Great Bible Giveaway: In September we held our 4th Annual Bible Sunday. The Christian Education committee gave Bibles to multiple age/grade levels to encourage all of our children and youth to spend time with the Word and stories of God. Our youngest children received *The Beginner's Bible*, third graders received *The Children's Bible in 365 Stories*, and members of the Confirmation Class received *The Quest Study Bible* to assist them on their journey towards joining the church. Sixth graders will receive the red-covered Bibles we have given to third graders in the past—but this year's class already has them. We extend our thanks to generous church members whose donations have made this continuing tradition possible.

Advent Festival: On November 27th families gathered in Fellowship Hall to participate in our Joy themed Advent Festival. We made nativities and ornaments, painted canvases, and decorated cookies as well as our traditional Advent Wreaths. We were also able to bring back dinner to the Advent Festival with hoagies and soup and desserts. Families donated to our Caring Hearts gift card drive, made Christmas Cards for neighboring senior living homes, and created hygiene kits for CWS. So many church members as well as the Confirmation Class lent a hand by decorating, planning, preparing, executing crafts, and cleaning up.

**Youth Newsletter**: We continued to send out our monthly youth newsletter *Presby Buzz*. The newsletter provides updates on available children/youth programs, highlights of the past month, and other resources for parents plus plenty of pictures of our amazing youth. Monthly issues are linked to the weekly bulletin and can also be found on the website.

Submitted by Former Director of Youth and Family Ministries, Gabrielle Heimerling

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

2022 continued to present financial challenges for First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield. Pledge giving and our loose offerings were down versus both the prior year and our budget. Unfortunately our expenses outpaced our incoming funds, so we had to reduce some spending in 2022, particularly in Mission. An additional result of the drop in income with flat expenses was that we had to use funds from our reserves/investments to meet our cash obligations several times during 2022. The calculations were done to determine we are eligible for Employee Retention Credits, but we do not expect to see the funds from that until well into 2023. In 2023 we will be re-evaluating our financial priorities; we are pleased to have Reverend Lindsay here with us to embark on that journey. Lastly, on behalf of the Finance Committee, thank you to Kris Bean for her diligent work throughout a difficult financial year, and related to the ERC in particular.

Respectfully Submitted by Corey Crumley, Treasurer

# 2022 Treasurer's Annual Report

| ources of Operating Revenue   |             | VOVANCOUS: |    |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|----|
|                               | <u>2021</u> | 2022       |    |
| Envelope Giving               | 588,089     | 570,270    |    |
| Loose Offering                | 36,010      | 10,453     |    |
| Per Capita                    | 11,958      | 12,862     |    |
| Building Use Fees             | 7,305       | 15,628     |    |
| Manse Rent                    | 2,400       | 12,100     |    |
| Preschool Rent                | 35,036      | 60,000     |    |
| Total                         | 680,798     | 681,313    |    |
|                               |             |            |    |
|                               |             |            |    |
|                               |             |            |    |
| xpenditures                   |             |            | 20 |
| AP OTTOM CO                   | 2021        | 2022       |    |
| Total Administrative          | 45,236      | 33,049     |    |
| Total Christian Formation     | 7,256       | 13,085     |    |
| Total Marketing               | 2,086       | 350        |    |
| Total Member Care             | 2,144       | 2,302      |    |
| Total Outreach and Mission    | 72,675      | 39,486     |    |
| Total Property                | 142,495     | 141,327    |    |
| Total Salaries/Taxts/Benefits | 648,943     | 694,512    |    |
| Total Worship and Music       | 6,676       | 9,244      |    |
| Total                         | 927,511     | 933,355    |    |

# **BUILDING FUND BALANCE SHEET**

Total Church Fixed Assets

**Total Fixed Assets** 

**Total Assets** 

| First Presbyterian Church     |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Statement of Building Fund    |               |
| As of: December 31, 2022      |               |
| Assets                        |               |
| Church Accounts               |               |
| 10020 Building Fund           | \$48,320.30   |
| Total Church Accounts         | \$48,320.30   |
| Fixed Assets                  |               |
| Church Fixed Assets           |               |
| 10065 Buildings-Church        | 17,528,819.00 |
| 10066 Buildings-Christian Ed  | 2,603,414.00  |
| 10067 Buildings-Manse         | 482,310.00    |
| 10068 Buildings-Other         | 27,077.00     |
| 10069 20 Chestnut Street      | 250,945.00    |
| 10070 Equipmt & Fixtrs-Church | 596,744.00    |
| 10071 Equipmt & Fixtrs-Ch Ed  | 100,960.00    |
| 10072 Equipmt & Fixtrs-Manse  | 444.00        |
| 10073 Equipmt & Fixtrs-Other  | 3,056.00      |

21,593,769.00

21,593,769.00

\$ 21,642,089.30

# BUDGET SUMMARY – 2023 SIX-MONTH BUDGET APPROVED BY SESSION

# First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield 6 Month 2023 Budget

|                               | 2023   | 2022    |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|
| Revenue                       |  |         |
| Building Use and Rent         |  |         |
| FPCH Building Use Fees        | 10,000.00  | 7,814   |
| FPCH Manse Rent               | 7,500.00   | 6,050   |
| FPCH Preschool Rent           | 35,000.00  | 30,000  |
| FPCH Wezner Rent              | 4,500.00   | 285     |
| Total Building Use and Rent   | \$ 57,000.00   | 44,149  |
| FPCH Income                   |  |         |
| FPCH Envelope Giving          | 285,135.00   | 329,284 |
| FPCH Loose Offering           | 6,000.00   | 5,227   |
| FPCH Per Capita               | 8,000.00   | 6,431   |
| FPCH Special Gifts            | 3,000.00   | 2,680   |
| Kirkland Fund                 | 2,000.00   | 2,250   |
| Total FPCH Income             | \$ 304,135.00  | 345,872 |
| Total Revenue                 | \$ 361,135.00  | 390,021 |
| Expenditures                  |  |         |
| Total Administrative          | \$ 18,708.00   | 16,544  |
| Total Christian Formation     |  | 6,544   |
| Total Marketing               | \$ 1,250.00  | 175     |
| Total Member Care             | \$ 3,600.00  |         |
| Total Outreach and Mission    | \$ 7,100.00<br>\$ 1,250.00<br>\$ 3,600.00<br>\$ 8,764.00 | 17,545  |
| Total Property                | \$ 63,800.00   | 79,240  |
| Total Salaries/Taxes/Benefits | \$ 322,292.00  | 336,569 |
| Total Worship and Music       | \$ 3,650.00  | 3,780   |
| Total Expenditures            | \$ 439,164.00  | 456,763 |
| Net Operating Revenue         | -\$ <b>78,029.00</b>                                     | -66,742 |
| Other Revenue                 | ,,····   | ,       |
| From Music Gifts              | 1,000.00   |         |
| From Unrestricted Funds       | 12,500.00  |         |
| Total Other Revenue           | \$ 13,500.00   |         |
| Net Other Revenue             | \$ 13,500.00   |         |
| Net Revenue                   | -\$ 64,529.00  |         |

#### **MEMORIAL MEDITATION**

# **United With the Church Triumphant in 2022**

|                          | Date Joined | Date of Death |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Patricia McGrody, Deacon | 3/28/2004   | 1/29/2022     |
| Daniel Colombi, Elder    | 1/22/1995   | 5/21/2022     |
| Barbara Crane            | 9/29/1957   | 8/6/2022      |
| Joan Bergdoll, Deacon    | 11/28/1965  | 8/7/2022      |
| Franklin Wezner, Elder   | 1/25/1953   | 9/6/2022      |
| Elinor Scull             | 1/1/1939    | 9/7/2022      |
| Neva Bosch               | 4/27/1980   | 9/25/2022     |
| Dot Ulmer                | 11/18/2012  | 9/26/2022     |
| Roy Probst, Elder        | 11/24/1974  | 10/12/2022    |
| Jane Connor, Deacon      | 3/2/1939    | 12/13/2022    |

# FOR ALL THE SAINTS

For all the saints who from their labors rest Who Thee by faith before the world confessed Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost Alleluia! Alleluia!



# A FEW OF THE MANY 2022 HIGHLIGHTS



PARTYNY RULE SHALL SHALL

2022 Confirmation Class

St. Wilfrid's Volunteers



Baptism of George and John Farrow



Youth Mission Trip to Kentucky



Advent Festival Crafts



Children's Message